

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/807,725

Examiner

Richard M. Lorence

Applicant(s)

YAMAZAKI, NOBUSHI

Art Unit

3681

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on February 23, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's ~~Amendment~~ / ~~Comment or in the Office action of~~ Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 1/10/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's ~~Amendment~~/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

### **EXAMINER'S COMMENT**

The amendment filed on February 23, 2006 and supplemented on April 7, 2006 has been entered. The specification and claims 1, 3, 7 have been amended.

The replacement drawing sheet containing Figure 24 was received on February 23, 2006. The replacement drawing sheet is not acceptable because it is not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84(g) which requires a bottom margin of at least 1.0 cm. (3/8 inch). The label "PRIOR ART" must be moved up closer to the figure.

The drawings are acceptable subject to correction of the informality indicated above. In order to avoid abandonment of this application, correction is required in reply to the Office action. The correction will not be held in abeyance.

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on January 10, 2006 has been considered by the examiner.

The restriction requirement between the various species identified on page 2 of the Office action mailed on July 27, 2005 has been reconsidered pursuant to MPEP § 821.04(a) in view of the allowability of claim 1 which is generic to each of the claimed species.

The restriction requirement is hereby withdrawn as to claims 8-15 which are dependent from and thus require all the limitations of the allowable generic claim 1.

In view of the above noted withdrawal of the restriction requirement, applicant is advised that if any claim(s) presented in a continuation or divisional application include all the limitations of a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claims may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Once a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Claims 1-17 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art of record shows or suggests a torque transmission apparatus including first and second rotational members, a friction engagement portion, a pressurizing member and an actuator arranged together in the manner set forth in each of the independent claims 1 and 3, and particularly wherein a penetrating portion is formed in the first rotational member facing the pressurizing member and a transmission member is disposed in the penetrating portion and interposed between the pressurizing member and the second rotational member.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard M. Lorence whose telephone number is (571) 272-7094. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays from 10:30AM to 7:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on (571) 272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Richard M. Lorence  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3681

Lorence/rml

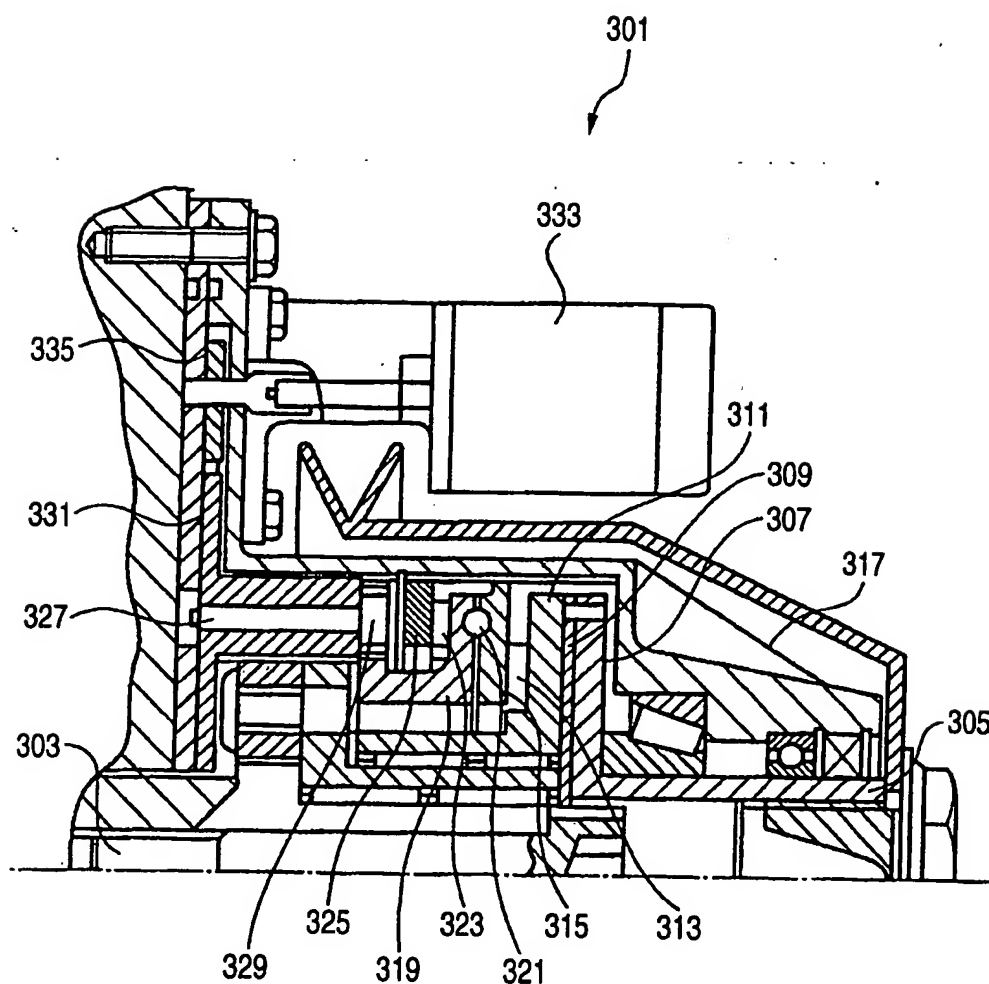


REPLACEMENT SHEET

19/19

FIG. 24

*Do Not  
Enter  
Insufficient  
bottom margin.  
"PRIOR ART" label  
must be moved up  
closer to figure.  
KMC 4/15/06*



PRIOR ART